



**VOTE:  
WHAT  
FOR?**

*Robert Lynn*

# VOTE WHAT FOR?

This pamphlet reveals the futility of voting. How M.P.'s are puppets on a string dancing to the dictates of top brass civil servants who never stand for election. The pamphlet illustrates the necessity of common ownership and control of all means of production and distribution. It advocates alternative forms of organisation opposed to political parties who have persistently failed you. It advocates neither private enterprise, state control or nationalisation. It advocates socialisation of all wealth and production of goods for the needs of all and not for the profit of parasites.

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Glasgow G12 8HL  
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Glasgow G4  
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(opp. Hillhead Subway)  
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A certain shepherd  
oppressed the sheep  
with cruel laws

- 1 SHEEP WILL BE SHORN  
AND WOOL CONFISCATED
- 2 SHEEP WITH POOR WOOL  
YIELDS WILL BE SLAUGHTERED
- 3 SHEEP MAY NOT SPEAK  
EXCEPT TO SAY **BAAA!**



The sheep became unmanageable,  
so the shepherd was replaced.

The new shepherd gave his flock  
a Charter of Freedom

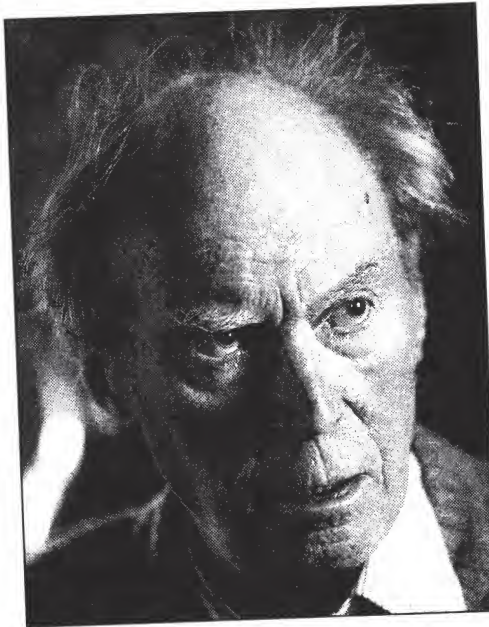


and all the sheep  
together voiced a loyal

**BAAA!**



# POLITICIANS



# DROP DEAD!

**DON'T MOAN  
ORGANISE!**

**SCOTTISH  
ANARCHIST**

Scottish Federation of Anarchists  
PO Box 1008, Glasgow G42 8AA



# DON'T VOTE TAKE OVER



## Revolution Not Reform

IT WON'T BE LONG NOW.

Soon every political crook and parasite in the country will be coming to 'oor wee toon'.

All of them will have the same message, "give up your power, Mugs," They'll scream, "And we will run your life for you (or ruin it)."

The mainstream snakes (labour Tory, S.D.P. and S.N.P.) will all claim that they can make the Capitalist profit system run more smoothly. It will run so smoothly that we might not even notice that we are being ripped off.

The fringe candidates (Socialist Workers Party, Workers Revolutionary Party and so on) will admit that the Capitalist system of everyone slaving away to make a few rich bums richer, is not to our advantage.

They say, "Better to work for the State," which they will run for us.

You don't have to be an anarchist or a libertarian socialist to see that the whole thing is a big Three Ring Circus CON.

## A New World In Our Hearts

What a great chance for us to say, "There is an alternative. Run your own life. Don't let others run it for you." If we take the trouble to explain our ideas, people could begin to discover the new world in their hearts.

Come on the Black Flag Brigade,  
The time has come to move.

## Action

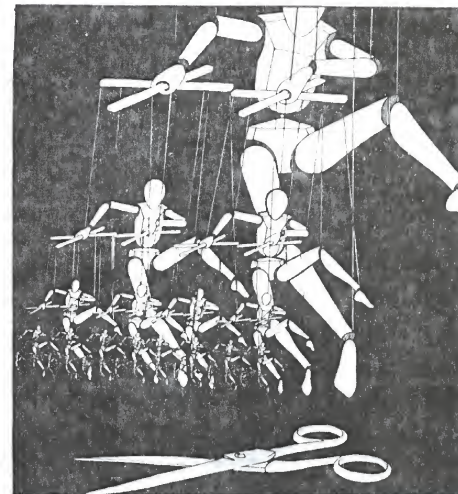
Some of us have already met to discuss our ideas - everything from stink bombs to stickers.

Before we start putting our ideas into action, we had to sit down and carefully think out our aims. We all want to pull together (I think

Here are some of the directions that people suggested we could go in.

- 1) Try to make everyone cynical and leave them to draw their own conclusions.

P.T.O.





***Do you prefer...***

The insipid taste of milk-and-water Labour Party politics as consumed by Tony Blair, and the pompous cooncillors in the City Chambers?

***Or do you prefer...***

**the authentic taste of freedom as enjoyed by the anti-motorway protesters, striking postmen, Zapatista rebels and anarchists the world over?**

**Then**

**DIAL AN ANARCHIST**

**0141 226 5066**

**or write to the Solldarity Centre, PO Box 1008, Glasgow G42 8AA**



Never Mind The Ballots!

# RESIST TO EXIST!

**W**hoever wins the election, ordinary people won't see any change in their everyday lives. There's no doubt that we've suffered under 18 years of Tory rule through authoritarian, centralised government which was brought reduced liberties, increased inequality, social breakdown, poverty and ecological destruction. There's no doubt that it's time for a change. But what kind?

## NEW LABOUR, NO DANGER

No danger of any change from the New Labour party, as supported by **The Sun**. It's clear to everyone that the Labour Party is now Tory Party Mark II. At least times have changed - usually Labour waited until it got elected before it sold out.

Labour have made it clear that they will not repeal the most draconian laws passed under the Thatcher/Major governments, such as the Criminal Justice Act and the anti-union laws. And they have promised to keep to Major's economic strategy for their first two years in office. In fact just this week we hear they are to continue the sell off of national companies (that's companies that belong to you and me folks) to big business. So New Labour equals Old Tories!

## THE BUSINESS OF POLITICS

Voting for parties other than Labour/Tory will make little difference. The reality is

that politicians are the puppets of big business. Little wonder we have seen left-wing governments from Spain to New Zealand introduce Thatcherite, pro-capitalist policies. Politicians come and go, but the state bureaucracy and big business remain forever running our country in the interests of profit.

Support for nationalist parties in Wales and Scotland is growing. This is because people think independence will give them more say in what happens. But local governments still impose cuts. We want more than a choice between whether we are oppressed by an English, Scottish or Welsh boss. Only independence from states and capitalism can produce real self-government (i.e. anarchy). Until this happens, independence will only mean a change in rulers.

## RESIST TO EXIST

For anarchists, the real danger with voting is it makes people believe that our problems can be solved by the very institutions that cause them in the first place. What happens in our communities, workplaces and environment is too important to be left to politicians - or the ruling elite who control governments. Because of this anarchists reject political parties and electioneering. Electioneering has always meant the death of radicalism and real change.



## DON'T VOTE FOR CHANGE, MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Voting is not part of the solution, its part of the problem. It makes us look to others to fight our battles for us. It **blocks** constructive self-activity and direct action, **stops** the building of alternatives in our communities and workplaces. Voting breeds apathy and apathy is our worse enemy. Little wonder that Tony Blah has said he would rather we voted Tory than not vote at all.

Anarchists argue that the only way to not waste your vote is to spoil it! We are the only political movement who argue that nothing will change unless you act for yourself, take back the power and fight the system **directly**. Only **direct action** breaks down apathy and gets results - and its the first steps towards real freedom, towards a free and just society.

## YOU'VE GOT THE POWER

Anarchists reject the phoney choice between what's on offer at election time. We reject the idea that picking masters is "freedom" - whether they're politicians or bosses. We are in favour of something you can't vote for - a new society. What's worth fighting for cannot be given, or voted for - only you can create it by your own efforts.

If this sounds "great but unworkable", think of all the times when direct action by ordinary people has made a difference: the Newbury and Pollok anti-roads protests; the disarmament of Hawk bombers bound for genocide in East Timor; the Liverpool dockers strike; the Glasgow resistance to council cuts; resistance to the Poll Tax; the German anti-nuclear struggle. These are just a few - you probably know of instances in

your own community where working class people have taken charge and made change happen. If no-one votes on May 1st, bus drivers won't suddenly forget how to drive buses, workers preparing canteen dinners won't suddenly forget how to cook and teachers won't suddenly decide not to teach.

We all know that only by organising, fighting back and practising solidarity where we live and work can we bring **real** change to our lives. That is where **our** power lies, that is where we can create a **real** alternative - something a Government can never give us.

Anarchists are all for creating a new world without politicians - how about you?

*Produced by Glasgow Anarchist Group.*

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To find out more about the Anarchist Alternative, write to:

- Solidarity Federation  
PO Box 29  
SW PDO  
Manchester M15 5HW  
England
- Anarchist Communist Federation  
84b Whitechapel High St.  
London E1 7QX  
England
- Counter Information  
c/o Transmission  
28 King St.  
Glasgow G1 5QP  
Scotland
- <http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/1931>



# Voting with their feet



Brian Biggins: "There's no chance of voting changing anything. E

**B**Y ANY measure, Brian Biggins and Phil McPhee are intensely political animals. Brian's record of political activity dates back to the era when Clement Attlee occupied No 10. But the Glasgow-based duo haven't the slightest intention of entering a polling booth during the 1997 General Election. They will, however, campaign flat out during the election period — urging citizens not to vote for any party under any circumstances.

Messrs Biggins and McPhee — respectively, a retired printer and an unemployed care worker — can't afford to hire space on billboards and their uncompromising "don't vote" message certainly won't qualify them for a "party political broadcast".

In common with like-minded supporters in Dundee and Edinburgh, Glasgow's anti-election activists will proclaim their views via older methods. Clydeside's rich tradition of anarchist dissent, active since at least the nineteenth century, has a colourful history of soap-box oratory and radical pamphleteering.

Brian and Phil will literally and metaphorically take to the streets. Brian points out wryly that Scotland's non-party aligned radicals knew the value of soap boxes long before John Major took to a similar platform in the early 1990s.

Both men have been active trade unionists. They used to belong to the Labour Party — and abandoned it in the 1960s.

When Major puts it all up for grabs and the parties leap into a frenzy of electioneering, two men at least will ignore all blandishments. **Ian Sutherland** explains

They've dabbled with Trotskyism, the Communist Party and myriad other left-wing causes and campaigns. And they claim that that experience has made them utterly determined to avoid voting in elections — national or local.

In their view, non-voting is very far from negative "protest" action. Rather, they argue, abstaining from the polls is an affirmation of "alternatives" and a positive contribution to healthy self-organisation on the part of individuals and communities. As they prepare to distribute thousands of "don't vote" leaflets, Brian and Phil believe they — and not conventional politicians — are in tune with the modern world.

"Politicians don't change things," says Phil, "people do."

He says that abolition of the much-hated poll tax simply wouldn't have happened without direct action and refusal to pay. In similar vein, only so-called "people-power" brought down the Stalinist regimes of Eastern Europe.

Brian says: "People think that by electing someone to do a job for them, they'll get problems solved. That doesn't work. At best as with the 'red' Clydeside MPs who went to the Westminster Gasworks' in the 1920s, they

get seduced into the system. The Labour Government of 1945 certainly did many things, such as creating a Social Security system and the NHS, but that wasn't done to help ordinary people, it was to save capitalism.

"It wasn't the 1945 Government which changed things. It was the determination of millions of people, especially those serving in the armed forces, who

might take office but it won't take power."

He doesn't want it to take power in any event and in his view, the same goes for the SNP, the Conservatives, the Liberal Democrats and any other contenders on the ballot papers.

"Actually," says Brian, "voting is a bit like playing the National Lottery. You hope your numbers are going to turn up. It actually inhibits people from doing things for themselves. At least you've a chance of winning the lottery but there's no chance of voting changing anything. Elections distort realities."

Brian and Phil say their anarchist philosophy isn't impractical dreaming. They say they want communities to develop self-reliance and self-organisation. Since early adulthood, Brian has been a supporter of the Co-operative movement, which, he asserts, showed what ordinary people could do in terms of self-organisation in a thoroughly democratic manner — although it has declined in recent decades.

Messrs Biggins and McPhee also say they won't be deflected from their "abstentionist" position by the possibility of a Scottish parliament or assembly. That, for them, is simply Westminster in miniature. "Just another addition to bureau-

**Real power doesn't lie with Parliament anyway**

wanted real change in society."

Essentially, Scotland's non-voters say that citizens are invariably streets ahead of professional politicians in knowing what needs to be done, and rather than delegating power to politicians, ordinary citizens should act entirely on their own account. These campaigners say that "real" power doesn't lie with Parliament, anyway.

"Power resides elsewhere," says Phil. "In the permanent state machine. So, the Labour Party



Picture: ANGELA CATLIN



lections distort realities."

tracy," claims Brian. "It'll just be all of displaced regional councillors who didn't make it on to the new local authorities."

They also dismiss any hopes of achieving meaningful social change via new groups which have emerged as left-wing challengers to the Labour Party. In the 1960s, disillusioned with mainstream left-wing politics, both men joined various Trotskyist "groupscules" and just as quickly left them. "Trotskyist groups such as Militant carry within them their own totalitarian organisation," says Brian. They're so tightly organised that activists even imitate the physical gestures of their leaders."

For Brian and Phil, the "real" election will take place in Scotland's communities, where people campaign for improved education, better transport, retention of heritage, or the development of sustainable and democratically controlled economic activity. That might mean individuals being elected to various offices. But, on their perspective as far as holding office is concerned, "everyone should take their turn".

Their anti-voting leaflets have a very simple message. "Investing anyone with authority is wrong. It's a cul-de-sac. Even the best people in the world can be put in and they'll be corrupted, and they add that the only thing that will deter them from proclaiming that challenging message on Scotland's street corners in the next few weeks will be the weather.

# Mr Lincoln drags in a few dollars more

Who's been sleeping in Lincoln's bed?  
**Patrick Brogan** examines the dirty linen

**T**HE sharks are circling, journalists and Republicans together. They can smell blood in the water, and happily anticipate the feast to come. Suddenly it's not just President Clinton. Now Al Gore, that model of vice-presidential dullness and probity, is floundering in the water. Perhaps they'll get him, too.

This is all about campaign finance. Mr Clinton and the Democrats raised enormous sums for the last election, and some of it came from highly dubious sources. What is more, Mr Clinton turned the White House into a bed-and-breakfast for millionaires. He let major contributors sleep in the Lincoln bedroom.

It isn't, in fact, the bedroom Lincoln used. It was a study in Lincoln's day, that now has some furniture that once belonged to the great man, including a bed made for him - that he never slept in. All the same, the name is enough to raise all sorts of outrage.

Mr Gore's crime is that he used a telephone in his office to solicit donations to the party. That may have been against an 1880 statute. Federal buildings may not be used to raise money for political purposes.

In one respect there is much less to this than meets the eye, and all the investigations will probably sink without trace. Al Gore, for instance, is safe. Senators and Congressmen will find it quite impossible to ask him, or Mr Clinton, the question, "Did you ever solicit campaign donations on federal property?" because he will reply, "Yes, but it was legal - what about you?" Senator Phil Gramm, for instance, who ran for the Republican nomination in 1996, admits that he solicited funds continuously, in his office, in other Senate buildings, wherever he was.

Should he be impeached? Bob Dole, who won the nomination, held fund-raisers in his offices in the Senate. Should he be prosecuted? Newt Gingrich had Republican contributors in his office continually, allowing them to help write Bills he then put up in the House.

A couple of Republican senators on the committee that is meant to open investigations into the Democrats have announced that they will make every effort to ensure that their work is strictly limited to Mr Clinton and his comrades. They will not allow any light shed on their own party.

That won't wash, and the Senate committee is in deep trouble on this very issue. What is more, Mr Clinton has a good case that he did nothing against the law, that the Democrats were not going to disarm themselves unilaterally and that if Congress really objects it should reform the laws. Republicans counter that while earlier Presidents may



Al Gore: too long on the phone.

have had donors into the White House, or while they themselves may have broken the 1880 law on occasion, Mr Clinton carried the whole business of begging for money to indecent levels. It is crass and tawdry to sell invitations to the White House.

All very true, and the entire scandal may yet prevent Mr Clinton achieving anything in his second term. But since the only major act of policy that he has proposed, balancing the budget, is one on which the Republicans have promised to help him, that won't necessarily mean very much.

However, underlying Republican hypocrisy and Democratic tawdriness and crassness is a very serious issue. Money corrupts, and huge quantities of money corrupt hugely. In the past two years, the Democrats raised more than \$85m, three times what it gathered for the 1992 election.

The money went to television advertising. Starting in 1995,

after the Democrats had lost Congress in the 1994 mid-term elections, they poured money into television while the Republicans were diverted by the long fight for the nomination. The Democrats spent twice as much on television in the 1996 election as in 1992 - and ascribe their political recovery, in part, to those TV commercials.

The problem was how to raise that sort of money. Dick Morris, the election expert who ran Mr Clinton's campaign until he was fired for sexual misconduct last summer, quoted the President in his book: "You don't know, you don't have any remote idea, how hard I have to work. I can't think, I can't act. I can't do anything but go to fund-raisers and shake hands. You want me to issue executive orders; I can't focus on a thing except the next fund-raiser." So when someone suggested that he use the perks of office (the Lincoln bedroom, trips on his plane, Air Force One, golf matches) as ways of snaring big donors, he jumped at it.

He held 103 coffee-meetings in the White House in 1995 and 1996 for donors, and about 980 people stayed in the White House during the President's first term. That's how he raised all that money.

The general argument today is that it's wrong to raise money that way. It ought to be that it's wrong to elect Presidents (and members of Congress) that way. The whole political system stinks of money and hypocrisy.

A slew of laws were passed after Watergate, inspired chiefly by the corruption of Republican fund-raising in 1972. The lawyers have discovered how to get around those well-intentioned laws, and the system is now far more corrupt than it was under Richard Nixon.

Now the Democrats have been caught, as the Republicans were in 1972 and 1973. Perhaps it will lead to a new wave of reform - but don't bet on it. Politicians, like Bill Clinton, hate fund-raising - but they would rather remain free to do it than lose "the mother's milk of politics".

Journalists, politicians and the general public have very short memories. Look, there's Newt Gingrich back in the limelight barely eight weeks after he pleaded guilty to breaking a slew of laws and agreed to pay a \$300,000 fine. He and Bill Clinton are well matched, and both will be around for some time to come.

- 2) Tell everyone about the libertarian ideas
- 3) Get as many people as we could involved in ACTION

This last aim was the most popular. That is what we will be trying to do in the campaign - get people involved.

We also want to get our ideas across to people

to as many people as possible, but that is only our secondary aim.

How are we going to go about this?

## ANARCHIST CENTRE

Our main idea is to open an ANARCHIST CENTRE for the duration of our campaign. Ideally, it would be a drop in cafe where we could talk to people, hold meetings and fund raising s socials; it would also be a resource centre for producing leaflets and posters. It would be the centre of attraction to draw people together and into Action

## Direct Action

We want to create a place which really buzzes with action. When new people who are interested in anarchism, come along, they can learn by working alongside anarchists and talking to them in a less academic way than formal meetings allow.

We do not want to provide another setting for the old Glasgow Anarchist Group's social nights and talk shops

Our aim is to see new faces, every day - people who come, not just for talk, but for action.

The best way to get people involved, is to show that we are involved; all of us; every day. We must show that we are active and we are organised for action

This will be a great chance to pull out all the stops; to show what we can do

The first way you can show that you are ready for action is to come along to the Wednesday meeting 7.45. sharp

The Alternative Bookshop Collective  
Great Western Road.  
Turn left along Gt W Rd from Kelvinbridge Subway

Everyone has got something to offer

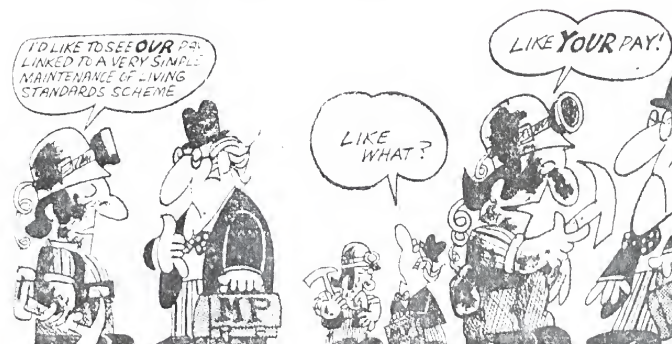
- We need:
- 1) Money
  - 2) Good Jumble
  - 3) Designs for badges and posters
  - 4) Lots of time and labour.
  - 5) More money

Meetings are at 7.45. sharp, every Wednesday except the first one of the month in the Alternative Bookshop 488 Great Western Road. Get the Underground to Kelvinbridge and turn left along Gt. W. Rd.

Next meetings. February 24th, March 3rd.

Write, enclosing a donation to

Box 3  
Alternative Bookshop  
488 Great Western Road.  
Glasgow  
G12.



ROT  
ALL  
RULERS

David



**If  
voting  
could  
change  
anything  
they'd make  
it  
ILLEGAL**

**ANTI-ELECTION  
CAMPAIGN MEETING  
Solidarity Centre  
3 Royal Exchange Court  
(off Queen Street)**

**MONDAY 24 FEB • 7.30pm**

*Spread the word*

# POLITICIANS?

## We couldn't give a XXXX



Stopping a poll tax warrant sale in Glasgow in October

### **WORKING CLASS ACTION - THE REAL ALTERNATIVE**

**WE AGREE** with those people who say politicians are all the same! They lie, bribe and try to buy votes by promising us jobs, wage rises, housing - anything to get a chance of being elected. The main objective for a politician is to get into power and stay there, no matter what party they are from.

Instead of just feeling annoyed at the farce of the general election, when we have so many real problems requiring urgent attention, we decided to go on the offensive. We have decided to use this election to launch our own campaign to expose politicians for the lying two-faced rats that they are and to offer some constructive suggestions for changing the world that does not include politicians.

### **POLITICIANS - PART OF THE PROBLEM NOT THE SOLUTION**

POVERTY, the housing crisis, health service cuts and all the other problems we face won't disappear after the election. No political party will change these things. No political party can change these things. The reality is that politicians are puppets. Real power in the state lies with the top civil servants, the judiciary, police, armed forces and, ultimately, big business.

If we leave changing things to politicians, little will happen. Either they will ignore us or their attempts at reform will be undermined. This happened to Labour in the 70's. We cannot rely on politicians. We can only rely on ourselves.

Only by organising and fighting together in our workplaces and communities can we really change things. That is where our power lies, that is where we can create a real alternative.

After all, we create all the wealth in the first place through our work, why should we let the handful of people who control big business and the government steal it from us? Doesn't it make more sense to produce what people need? In

today's madhouse economy farmers are paid to NOT produce food while millions are starving. Through sticking together and building up our self-organisation in the workplace and in the community we could be strong enough to take over society's resources and run things for the benefit of all - not just for a few as at present. This might sound odd at first but when you think about it, it's only common sense.

Such a real democracy would involve people having direct control over how their work was organised, about how their community works and about how society's resources were to be used. People would co-operate as equals instead of a handful of politicians and bosses making all the decisions. Hunger, homelessness and poverty could be overcome. Such a revolutionary change won't come overnight, and some may think it a dream. But we think the real dreamers are those who believe the promises the politicians are making in this (and every) election campaign. The hard reality is that if things are to change for the better we're going to have to join together and do it ourselves.

**YOU'VE GOT THE POWER!**

# WHY THE ANTI POLITICIAN LEAGUE?

## POLITICIANS WON'T STOP POVERTY - ONLY WORKING CLASS ACTION CAN.

THE POLITICIANS talk about boosting the economy. They mean boosting profits. Whichever party is in power we are asked to tighten our belts. Low wages, cuts in social security benefits, reductions in public services like health and housing and the like, are what we get. Even for those of us in work it is often badly paid, unsatisfying and boring. Though we do all the work, it's the bosses who make all the decisions about what is produced and how it's produced. Equal rights don't exist in the economy - 5% of the population own 91% of the wealth. No political party will change these things. The reality is that politicians are the puppets of the rich and big business - if they step out of line they're out.

For things to change we need to organise ourselves. The anti-poll tax movement is a great example. Millions of people are refusing to pay this unjust tax, and through the anti-poll tax groups are defending each other against the sheriff officers. The movement has been so successful that it has forced a prime-minister out of office and a government into humiliating retreat when they announced the abolition of the tax.

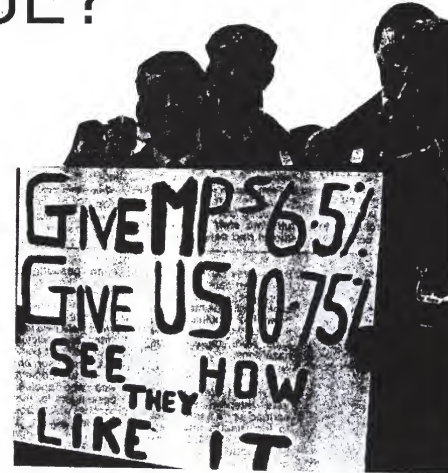
This shows the power working class people have when we join together. If we could create the same solidarity in the workplaces our employers wouldn't be able to get away with low wages, mass sackings and speed-ups. As working people we need to take control of our own struggles - for too long the trade union bosses have cooked up cosy deals with the bosses and politicians.

Even being on the dole doesn't mean we have no power. Unemployed groups, tenants associations and claimants' unions can and do fight back against dole snoopers, E.T. and other slave labour schemes and 'restart' interview harassment.

## POLITICIANS WON'T SOLVE THE HOUSING CRISIS - ONLY WORKING CLASS ACTION CAN.

Homelessness is soaring. Owner occupiers are having their homes repossessed, thousands are living in cardboard boxes. House building for people on low incomes has ground to a halt. Rents are rising. Much council housing suffers from a chronic lack of basic community facilities, and shoddy construction leading to dampness and other problems.

None of the political parties will change this. They are all committed to the capitalist system which causes these problems in the first place. Only by joining together and fighting together will we get anywhere. Some tenants groups have made advances through sticking together. If we can chase the sheriff officers away when they come for the poll tax, why should we let them evict people who cannot afford the rent or the mortgage? The answer lies in our own hands.



## POLITICIANS WON'T IMPROVE THE HEALTH SERVICE - ONLY WORKING CLASS ACTION CAN.

The government is closing down our hospitals and through encouraging hospital opt-outs and privatisation, trying to turn the health service into a profit-dominated business. This is making a service which is already underfunded and over-bureaucratic even worse. Much ill-health is caused by poverty, stress, pollution and bad working conditions. No political party will ever tackle these causes of poor health. Whoever gets elected will ensure that the big drug companies continue to make a fat profit out of our ill-health.

Health workers and the community can join together to resist the attacks on health services. In the recent past workers, patients and relatives have occupied hospitals due for closure and kept the service going. Sympathy strikes have been held for the health services by miners, car workers and others in recent years. We need a health service that provides a free good quality service controlled by its workers and the community.



PO Box  
4 9 6  
Glasgow  
G14 OPG

**YOU'VE GOT THE POWER!**



## HOW CAN YOU TELL IF A POLITICIAN IS LYING? LOOK TO SEE IF THEIR LIPS ARE MOVING.

THE TORIES are the self-confessed party of the rich, big business and 'patriotism'. Labour and the Liberal Democrats are no better than the Tories. Labour boasts that they attack poll tax non-payers more enthusiastically than the Tories. They supported the war for oil in the Gulf and the Trident nuclear subs in Scotland. Let's not forget that it was the Labour party that introduced slave labour schemes for the unemployed like YOPS and made the biggest ever real cuts to the NHS in the late 70's. If Labour ever had any socialist principles they are long gone now. The choice between the Tories and Labour is the choice between being shot in the front or stabbed in the back.

### SCOTTISH INDEPENDENCE

Support for Scottish independence is growing because people think it will give them more say in how things are run and free us of the English Tory establishment. We are completely against the British state, and working class people have nothing to gain from defending the Union between Scotland and England.

But the SNP leaders are just as anti-working class as the other politicians. They have abandoned their poll-tax non-payment stance. The SNP controlled Angus District Council even co-operated in collecting the poll tax. An SNP government wouldn't challenge the powers of the employers and the rich, like all governments they would use the police and the law of a new Scottish state to protect the ruling class. We want more than a choice between English and Scottish bosses!

## SOLIDARITY IS STRENGTH

WE NEED to stick together to stand up to those in power and gain improvements for our class. Equally, we have to fight against those things that stop us standing together.

**Racism**, divides us and weakens us. If white working class people blame black people for bad housing, unemployment and poverty they're not going to do anything about the real culprits - the rich and powerful who make up the ruling class.

British bosses looted Africa, India and the rest of the "Empire". Then when cheap labour was needed during the boom after the 2nd World War black people and other members of the "Empire" such as the Irish were encouraged to come and settle here. Since then Labour and Tory governments have tried to make black people scapegoats for the problems of capitalism. The government attacks black people and others through state racism such as immigration controls, deportations, police harassment, health and social security restrictions and housing policies.

Fascist and racist groups like the BNP work as bootlickers for the ruling class by trying to stir up hatred and mistrust between black and white working class people. They and other enemies of the working class must be opposed accordingly.

Just because a Scottish Parliament would be close-by and have only a few Tories in it doesn't mean it would respond to what ordinary people would want. Look at the Regional Councils like Strathclyde (the biggest in the UK). They are still trying - unsuccessfully of course! - to collect the poll tax and do warrant sales. Nationalism says all Scottish people have got a common interest because they are from Scotland. What have ordinary Scottish people got in common with a Highland Laird or a merchant banker from Edinburgh? Nothing, we've far more in common with working class people in England. As the EEC steps up co-operation between European rulers we should do like-wise and build up international links with working class people everywhere to fight for a better world.



**Women** face a whole system of laws and values and attitudes and ways of doing things that try to force us into an inferior position. Violence against women is widespread, some men behave as if it is their natural right to hurt us, husbands and partners account for most of this violence.

Men are brought up to believe that they should be head of the "household", the boss. Women are 'supposed' to have the responsibility of child care and housework, even if we have a paid job too. The Social Security laws try and make women financially dependent on men. Jobs considered to be "women's work" always pay less than "men's work". Under capitalism women work for free at home and for low wages outside the home.

Politicians dreaming up laws to protect women's rights at work and at home have had little effect. For example women are still paid far less than men despite the Equal Pay Act. Real liberation and freedom for women has nothing to do with a woman being able to become prime minister or a few women getting into high paid jobs. We want real social equality and respect between women and men in all areas of life, and it is a central part of our struggle to create a better society for us and our children.

**YOU'VE GOT THE POWER!**

# **NO POLITICIANS HERE**

Display this in your window until we have defeated the politicians, bosses and bureaucrats once and for all -  
or at least until the election is over!

## **THE ANTI POLITICIAN LEAGUE**

WE ARE organising a massive campaign against the election. Leaflets, stickers, badges and posters are all available. We aim to make an impact on the fixed game called 'democratic' elections - where all the candidates are on the same side. We are an open and democratic organisation. Get involved! You can join for only £1. Members get a bumper APL anti politician pack and are informed of all our upcoming meetings and events.

This is only the beginning. The vote will change little. After the election our people's struggle for a better life continues. Contact us and together we can get involved in grass-roots action.

**Contact: The Anti Politician League, POB 496, Glasgow G14 0PG.**

**YOU'VE GOT THE POWER!**